



Impact of climate variability on tropospheric ozone

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Abstract

A simulation with the climate–chemistry model (CCM) E39/C is presented, which covers both the troposphere and stratosphere dynamics and chemistry during the period 1960 to 1999. Although the CCM, by its nature, is not exactly representing observed day-by-day meteorology, there is an overall model's tendency to correctly reproduce the variability pattern due to an inclusion of realistic external forcings, like observed sea surface temperatures (e.g. El Niño), major volcanic eruption, solar cycle, concentrations of greenhouse gases, and Quasi-Biennial Oscillation. Additionally, climate–chemistry interactions are included, like the impact of ozone, methane, and other species on radiation and dynamics, and the impact of dynamics on emissions (lightning). However, a number of important feedbacks are not yet included (e.g. feedbacks related to biogenic emissions and emissions due to biomass burning). The results show a good representation of the evolution of the stratospheric ozone layer, including the ozone hole, which plays an important role for the simulation of natural variability of tropospheric ozone. Anthropogenic NO_x emissions are included with a step-wise linear trend for each sector, but no interannual variability is included. The application of a number of diagnostics (e.g. marked ozone tracers) allows the separation of the impact of various processes/emissions on tropospheric ozone and shows that the simulated Northern Hemisphere tropospheric ozone budget is not only dominated by nitrogen oxide emissions and other ozone pre-cursors, but also by changes of the stratospheric ozone budget and its flux into the troposphere, which tends to reduce the simulated positive trend in tropospheric ozone due to emissions from industry and traffic during the late 80s and early 90s. For tropical regions the variability in ozone is dominated by variability in lightning (related to ENSO) and stratosphere–troposphere exchange (related to Northern Hemisphere Stratospheric dynamics and solar activity). Since tropospheric background chemistry is regarded only, the results are quantitatively limited with respect to derived trends. However, the main results are regarded to be robust.

Although the horizontal resolution is rather coarse in comparison to regional models, such kind of simulations provide useful and necessary information on the impact of large-scale processes and inter-annual/decadal variations on regional air quality.

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1. Introduction

The chemical composition of the atmosphere shows a large variability on a variety of time scales. Additionally, systematic changes have been measured, which

largely can be attributed to anthropogenic activities. As an example, measurements of the stratospheric ozone layer show a clear decline from the 1970s to 2000, which is mainly resulting from emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) (e.g., [WMO \(2003\)](#)). On the other hand, Northern hemisphere mid-latitude surface stations show an increase of tropospheric ozone by up to 30% for the same time period (e.g. [Oltmans et al., 1998, 2006](#);

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Logan et al., 1999; Vingarzan, 2004). Many tropospheric urban time series show a slight decrease from the mid-80s onwards, which is not fully understood (Oltmans et al., 2006; Jonson et al., 2006; Monks, 2000). On the other hand, measured background ozone shows an increase during the 90s (Volz-Thomas et al., 2003). E.g. for Mace Head, Ireland, Derwent et al. (2004) reported an increase of 0.5 ppbv per year. Besides these long-term changes, there are clear year to year variations. The main factors, which impact this natural variability, have to be understood in order to be able to interpret measured trends. Based hereon a separation of trends from natural variability will form the basis to attribute ozone changes to human activity.

The stratospheric general circulation is characterized by an uprising in the tropics and downward transport at high latitudes (e.g. Dunkerton, 1978). One stratospheric ozone production region is clearly the tropical mid-stratosphere, where ozone production and destruction leads to an almost photochemical equilibrium of ozone. However, simulations with the model E39/C clearly indicate that mid- and high latitude lower stratospheric ozone may well be produced at mid- and high latitudes and this may dominate over ozone transport from the tropics (Grewe, 2006). In the troposphere, the ozone concentration is dominated by ozone influx from the stratosphere and by ozone production, basically initiated by the reaction of $\text{HO}_2 + \text{NO} \rightarrow \text{OH} + \text{NO}_2$ (background chemistry), a subsequent photolysis of NO_2 and a recombination with oxygen molecules. These processes are subject to temporal variability, e.g. the 11-year sun spot cycle significantly affects the stratospheric ozone production and concentration in the stratosphere, resulting in a tropical total ozone variation induced by the solar cycle of $\pm 2\%$ (WMO, 2003). Grewe (2006) presented the Northern Hemisphere ozone influx and showed that approximately 35% of the ozone influx originates from tropical stratospheric ozone on both hemispheres. Therefore, it can be expected that the 11-year solar cycle introduces a variability of the ozone influx of approximately $\pm 1\%$ ($\sim 4 \text{ Tg/year}$).

In the tropical troposphere the NO_x and ozone concentration largely depends on the lightning produced NO_x (e.g. Lelieveld and Dentener, 2000; Grewe, 2004). The El Niño/La Niña phenomenon is the most important natural climate variability in the tropics and affects lightning occurrence and therefore ozone concentration (climate–chemistry interaction). When considering air quality, it is clear that the near surface concentrations are mainly controlled by local and regional emissions. However, those concentrations are also affected by large scale transport, especially in winter (Ordóñez et al., 2005).

In this paper, a climate–chemistry simulation for the troposphere and stratosphere is analysed, which covers the period 1960 to 1999 (Dameris et al., 2005). Special diagnostics are applied in order to separate individual effects. Among the numerous climate–chemistry interactions existing in nature, those, which are regarded to be well enough represented by the model, are analysed. I.e. interactions between stratospheric dynamics and tropospheric ozone budget and the impact of El Niño induced variability on tropospheric chemistry. Section 2 introduces briefly the model and the experimental set-up. Section 3 describes the methodologies applied to attribute ozone changes to various atmospheric processes. Section 4 concentrates on stratospheric variability and its impact on the tropospheric ozone influx, whereas the tropospheric variability is analysed in Section 5. A discussion of the results is provided in Section 6.

2. Model description and experimental set up

The applied global climate–chemistry model E39/C (Hein et al., 2001) consists of the troposphere–stratosphere climate model ECHAM4.L39(DLR) (Land et al., 1999) coupled to the troposphere–stratosphere chemistry module CHEM (Steil et al., 1998). The climate model is a derivate of the standard ECHAM4 model (Roeckner et al., 1996), with a higher vertical resolution especially at tropopause levels ($\sim 700 \text{ m}$) to better represent processes and gradients in this region. CHEM includes homogeneous and heterogeneous stratospheric reactions, as well as the tropospheric background chemistry $\text{CH}_4\text{--CO--NO}_x\text{--HO}_x\text{--O}_3$. However, NMHC chemistry is not included. A total of 37 species and 107 reactions are applied. A speciality of the model is the amount of allowed interactions, e.g. the hydrological cycle is directly coupled to the chemistry scheme, photolysis scheme, wet deposition and lightning. Changes in the composition of radiatively active species directly affect dynamics via the radiation scheme. The model system has been intensively validated against measurements including a variety of international validation activities (Brunner et al., 2003, 2005; Austin et al., 2003; Shine et al., 2003) and has been applied for a variety of scientific questions with regard to the future development of the ozone layer (Schnadt et al., 2002; Dameris et al., 2006), aircraft impacts (Grewe et al., 2002a; and references therein), etc.

In this paper a simulation from 1960 to 1999 is analysed, which is fully described in Dameris et al. (2005). It includes a variety of changing boundary conditions: Monthly mean observed sea surface temperatures are employed (Rayner et al., 2003); The 11-

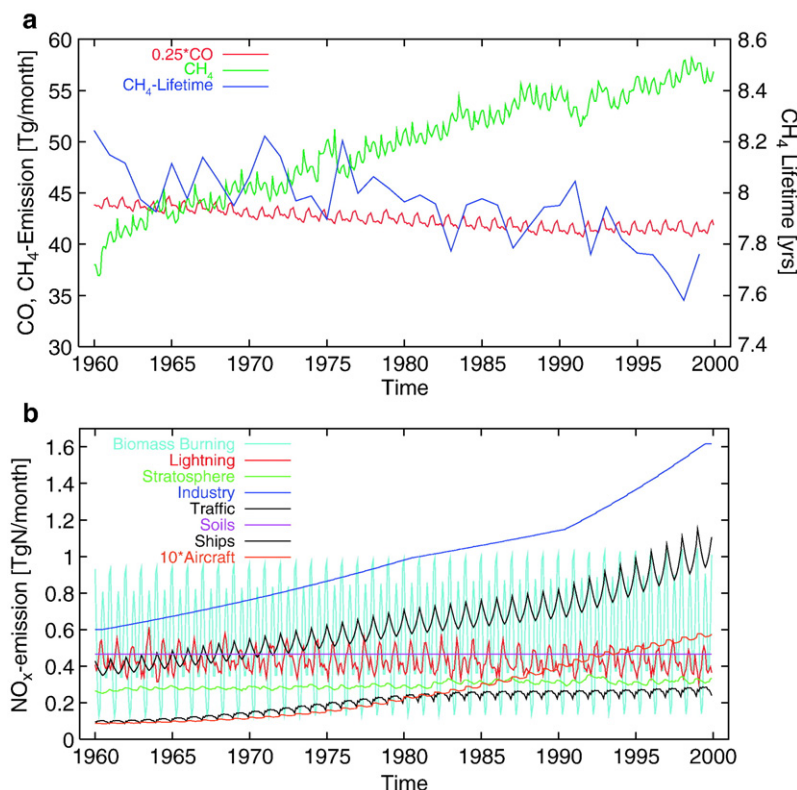


Fig. 1. a) Temporal evolution of implicit simulated methane (green) and carbon monoxide (red) emissions [Tg/month] and methane lifetime [years]. CO emissions are scale down by a factor of 4 (for plotting only) to fit the same scale. b) NO_x emissions as prescribed or implicitly calculated (lightning, stratosphere) [TgN/year]. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

year solar cycle is included by a parameterisation of the extra-terrestrial flux of 8 spectral wave lengths based on variations of the observed 10.7 cm radiation flux of the sun and variations of the solar constant to account for variations of the short-wave heating rates. The Quasi-Biennial-Oscillation (QBO) is implemented by linear relaxation of the predicted zonal wind towards the constructed QBO time series (based on radiosonde data), which follows the observed zonal wind profile (Giorgetta and Bengtsson, 1999). Three major volcanic

eruptions are regarded, which affect the stratospheric aerosol loading and heating rates.

Surface concentrations of CO_2 , CH_4 , N_2O , CO , and 2-D background concentrations of CFCs are taken into account. Carbon monoxide concentrations are kept constant over the simulation period, since a clear trend over this period is not established (Dameris et al., 2005). Methane surface concentrations are included with a trend, based on observations. Fig. 1a shows the calculated implicit emissions

Table 1
Mean CO , CH_4 and NO_x emissions (in Tg/year and TgN/year) for the 4 decades

Decade	CO	CH ₄	Lightning	Stratosphere	Industry	Soil	Biomass burning	Traffic	Ship	Air traffic
	Tg(specie)/year		TgN/year							
60s	2094	515	5.23	3.31	8.09	5.60	6.40	5.16	1.36	0.12
70s	2050	573	5.18	3.44	10.41	5.60	6.63	6.65	2.26	0.19
80s	2012	630	5.11	3.72	12.74	5.60	6.74	8.12	2.96	0.36
90s	1992	662	5.05	3.82	16.46	5.60	6.99	10.50	3.13	0.59

CO and CH_4 emissions are deduced from their boundary conditions.

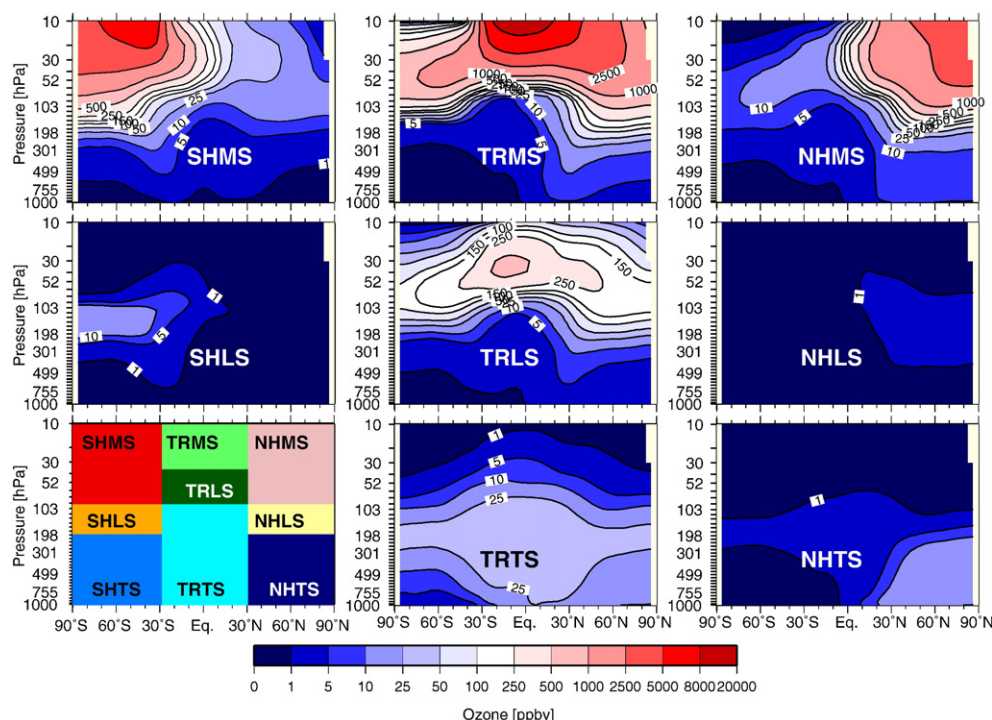


Fig. 2. Decomposition [ppbv] of the zonal mean simulated ozone into nine ozone fields representing ozone produced in nine different regions. The nine regions are displayed lower left and abbreviated with four letters: the first two describe Southern Hemisphere (SH), Tropics (TR), and Northern Hemisphere (NH) and the second two letters Mid-Stratosphere (MS), Lower Stratosphere (LS), and Troposphere (TS), respectively. The classification of the regions is given in the lower left part. Figure is adapted from Grewe (2006).

of CO and CH₄ for 1960 to 1999, which can be deduced from boundary conditions. Methane emissions show an increase in emissions from 515 Tg/year to 662 Tg/year and carbon monoxide a decrease from 2094 to 1992 Tg/year. The absolute values and also the trend in CH₄ emissions are comparable to emission estimates (e.g. 500 to 600 Tg/year CH₄ and 2800 Tg/year CO in the late 90s, Prather et al., 2001; 2.7 Tg/year CH₄ increase from 1979 to 1993, Dentener et al., 2003). Whereas the decrease in CO emissions reflect a decrease in CO and CH₄ lifetime due to a simulated OH increase. The change of the CH₄ lifetime is comparable to previous studies. E.g. Dentener et al. (2003) show a decrease from 1975 to 1993 of around 0.4 years, though they find a longer total lifetime of around 9.2 years.

Emissions of NO_x (Table 1, Fig. 1b) are either prescribed (biomass burning, land traffic, ships, soils, industry, and air traffic) or calculated on-line (lightning, stratospheric production). Lightning NO_x emissions are calculated based on the strength of the convective mass flux and depth of convective clouds (Grewe et al., 2001), latter to prevent lightning in shallow convection.

3. Methodologies

In order to separate processes affecting the ozone concentration two different methodologies are applied: (1) An NO_x-ozone tracking diagnostic (Grewe, 2004) and (2) ozone origin diagnostic (Grewe, 2006). For the NO_x-ozone tracking diagnostic 8 sources for NO_x are specified (lightning, biomass burning, soils, industry, land transportation, ships, air traffic and stratospheric N₂O degradation). To each of these sources an NO_y tracer is assigned in addition to the chemical species in the module CHEM, which experiences its specific emission and NO_y loss terms proportional to the total NO_y loss. To each NO_y tracer an ozone tracer is assigned, which experiences an ozone production proportional to the ratio of specific NO_y to total NO_y concentration multiplied by the total ozone production via the reaction of NO + HO₂ → NO₂ + OH. A further ozone tracer is included to account for ozone production by O₂ photolysis (mainly stratosphere). The determination of contributions from different sources to ozone is anything but straight forward. Perturbation studies (e.g. 5% or 30%, 100% changes in each emission category) include non-linear impacts, e.g. from

wash-out or chemistry, the sum rarely yields 100% in NO_x and NO_y (e.g. Grewe et al., 2001; Grewe, 2004) distributions. A direct comparison of attributions of ozone based on 5% emission change and this tagging diagnostic show for most emissions and regions a difference in the order of 5%. Around the tropopause differences reach up to 20% for lightning (Grewe, 2004). However, the detection of changes in the attribution caused by changes in emissions by 5% lead to a much better agreement of the two diagnostics with a difference of less than 0.2% for most regions and less than 0.7% at the tropopause region. Lamarque et al. (2005) applied a more sophisticated tagging method, including all nitrogen-containing species. They yielded an accuracy of more than 95% on monthly timescales, which is obviously superior to the diagnostic used here. However, the mentioned diagnostic is computationally too expensive to be included on-line for the whole simulation period and for a detection of attribution changes the method used here is regarded to give reasonable results. A detailed description of the error analysis can be found in Grewe (2004).

The second diagnostic is applied to identify regions of ozone production. The idea is similar to the previous. Nine regions are defined (Fig. 2) to which an

ozone tracer is linked. Each tracer experiences ozone production in this region only, and ozone losses in the whole model domain proportional to its concentration. In contrast to the first diagnostic, this one is linear (e.g. transport operator is linear; deposition is linear) and therefore theoretically accurate. However, the transport scheme can introduce numerical diffusion, which is non-linearly dependent on the tracer concentration and may lead to an error of 2% in the troposphere (Grewe, 2006).

For both diagnostics, the sum of all ozone tracers equals the simulated ozone field. Therefore, the diagnostics allow the interpretation, how much of the ozone is produced by a specific NO_x emission source (1st diagnostic) and where the ozone is actually produced (2nd diagnostic). The first diagnostic is included on-line in the model simulation. The second diagnostic is applied in steady state simulations and has been analysed in detail elsewhere (Grewe, 2006).

4. The role of the stratosphere and stratospheric influx

The lifetime of ozone in the stratosphere varies from region to region. In the mid-tropical stratosphere, its lifetime is short and ozone is mainly chemically

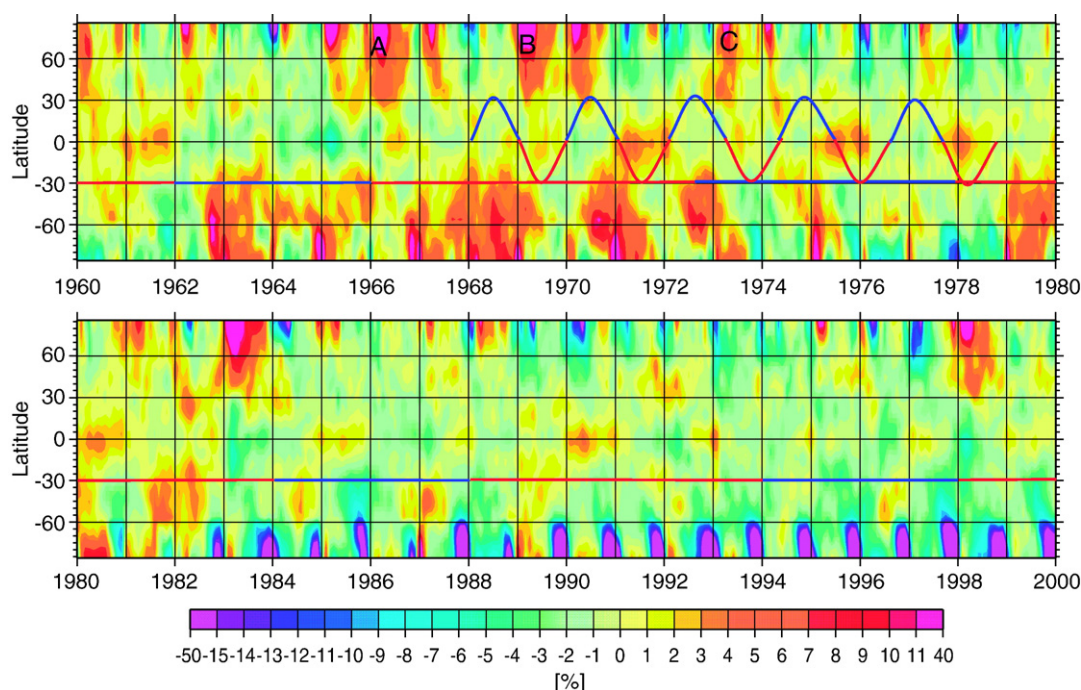
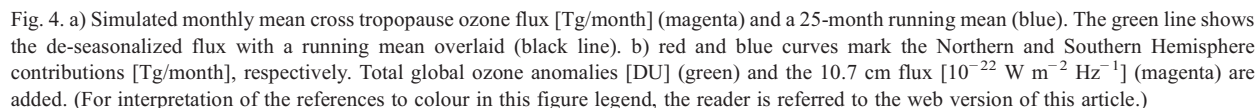


Fig. 3. De-seasonalized zonal mean simulated total ozone field [%] from 1960 to 1999, as an anomaly to mean of the period 1964 to 1980. Figure adapted from Dameris et al. (2005). At 30° S a red (blue) straight line indicates solar activity, exceeding (falling below) a threshold of $100 \times 10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}$. The phase of the QBO is indicated between 1968 and 1978 by red (west phase) and blue curves (east phase). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

The variation in stratospheric ozone also affects the ozone influx into the troposphere. Fig. 4a shows the



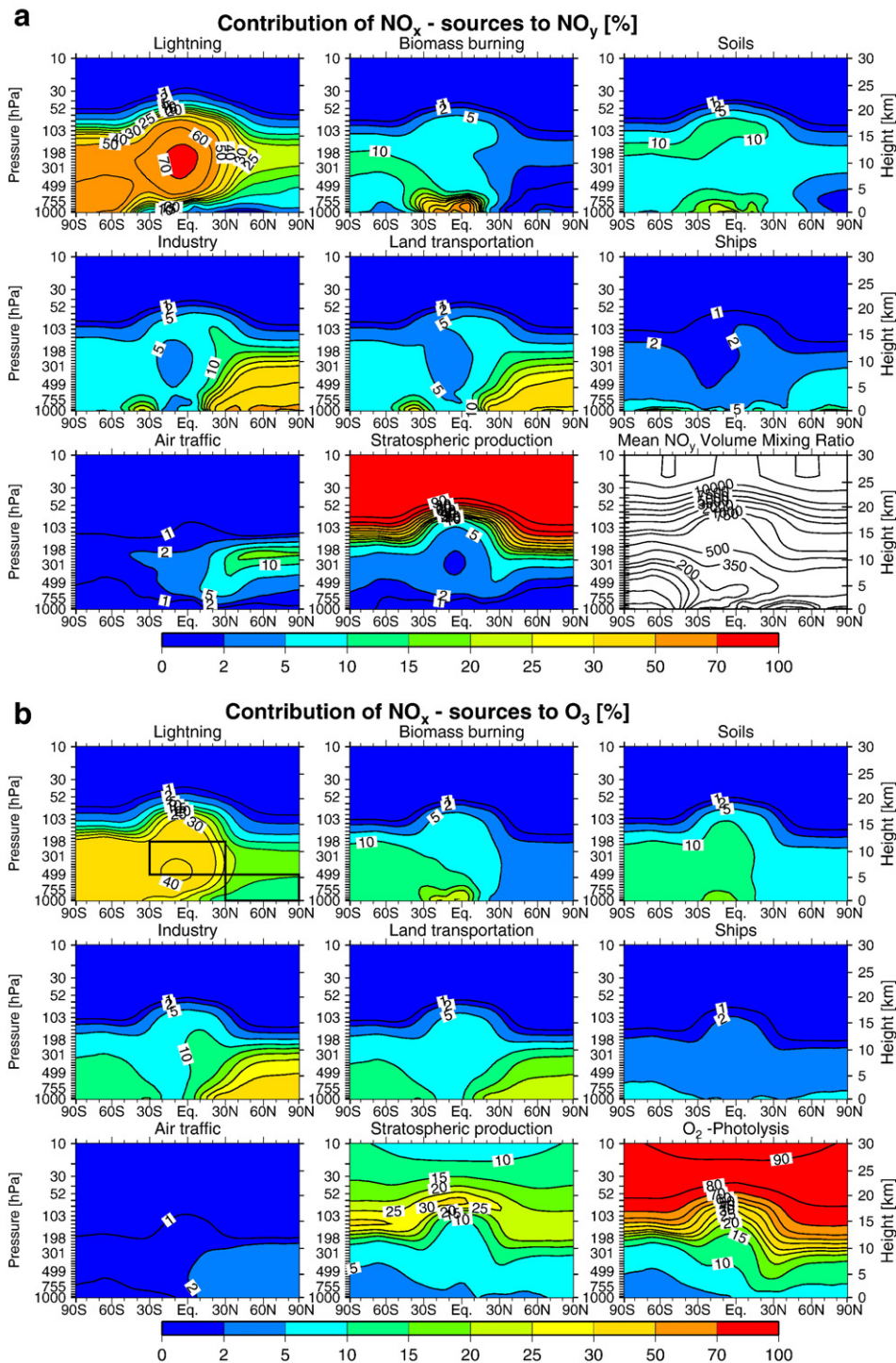


Fig. 5. Decomposition [%] of the zonal and decadal (1990–1999) mean simulated NO_y (a) and ozone (b) according to their sources: lightning, biomass burning, soils, industry, surface traffic, ships, air traffic, stratospheric production of nitrogen. For ozone, its production caused by oxygen photolysis is added, whereas in (a) the mean NO_y distribution is added. Boxes in (b) mark areas further discussed in the text: Tropical upper troposphere: 30° S–30° N; 500 to 200 hPa and northern extra-tropical lower troposphere: 30° N–90° N; 1000 to 500 hPa.

ozone flux calculated by applying the formula presented in Wei (1987) (also described in Grewe and Dameris, 1996). The total amount of the ozone flux into the troposphere of around 420 Tg per year is in good agreement with observational data (e.g. Murphy and Fahey, 1994: 475 Tg/a; Olsen et al., 2004: 500 Tg/a), though the method includes a number of uncertainties (see Discussion section). The decomposition of the total flux into Northern and Southern Hemisphere contributions (Fig. 4b) shows that the 11-year solar cycle can be identified in the Southern Hemisphere from 1960 to 1985, whereas in the Northern Hemisphere the planetary wave activity dominates the variability. Episodes with enhanced ozone values (around 1966, 1969/70 and 1973, see A, B, and C in Figs. 3 and 4b) lead to enhanced ozone influx. The interannual variability of the global mean influx, in terms of min–max values, amounts to ± 10 Tg/month, which is around $\pm 30\%$ of the mean value.

Fig. 2 shows how the individual ozone origin tracers are transported through the atmosphere and how they are chemically destroyed. Note that stratospheric ozone transported into the troposphere is not only produced in the region TRMS (tropical mid-stratosphere), but also,

and even with a higher contribution, from the region NHMS (Northern Hemisphere mid-stratosphere). In the tropical troposphere local ozone production is the dominant source.

By applying this ozone origin diagnostic and calculating the tropospheric influx of these tracers, the origin of ozone can be identified and the source of variations in the ozone influx explained (Fig. 10 in Grewe, 2006): On the Northern Hemisphere the ozone influx mainly originates from the regions NHMS (Northern Hemisphere mid-stratosphere), TRMS (tropical mid-stratosphere), and TRTS (tropical troposphere). Since the NHMS is characterized by a large year-to-year variability, also the Northern Hemisphere ozone influx experiences this variability. The Southern Hemisphere ozone influx originates mainly from the regions TRTS (tropical troposphere), SHMS (Southern Hemisphere mid-stratosphere), and TRLS (tropical lower stratosphere). The year-to-year variability of ozone in the SHMS region is much lower than in the NHMS region, because of smaller planetary wave activity, which leads to smaller variations in ozone from the SHMS region. Instead, the variability induced by the 11-

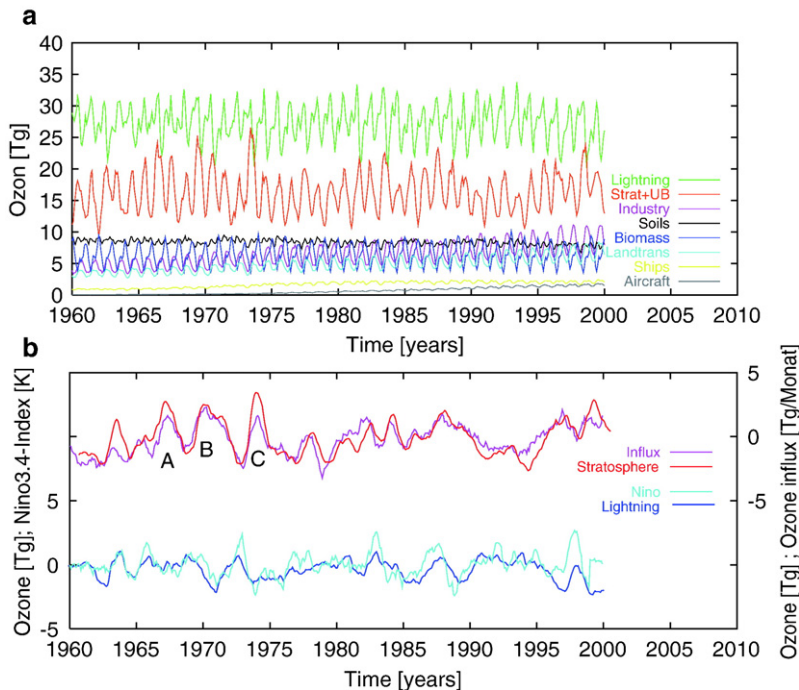


Fig. 6. Upper troposphere tropical (30° S–30° N; 500 to 200 hPa) ozone budgets [Tg]. Top: Decomposition into various ozone sources (see Fig. 5). Bottom: Major contributions to ozone variability. De-seasonalized anomalies [Tg] for stratospheric ozone (red) and lightning (dark blue) after applying a 25-month running mean. Overlaid are the stratospheric ozone influx [Tg/month] (magenta; see also Fig. 4) and the El-Niño3.4 Index [K] (light blue), which represents a temperature deviation in the area 5° S–5° N and 170° W–120° W. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

year solar cycle is dominating the variability of ozone at timescales exceeding 2 years in the SHMS and consequently also in the Southern Hemisphere ozone influx.

5. Tropospheric variability

Fig. 5a and b show the annual mean contributions from various sources to the NO_y and ozone concentration, respectively for the last decade (1990–1999) simulated. Clearly, lightning is the dominant source for NO_y (up to 70%) and ozone (up to 40%) in the tropics and Southern Hemisphere. Industry and surface transportation NO_x emissions are the most dominant sources for NO_y and ozone at Northern mid- and high latitudes.

The variability of ozone concentrations in the troposphere is influenced by both stratospheric and tropospheric processes. The discussion will focus on two regions: the tropical upper troposphere and the Northern Hemisphere lower troposphere, marked as black boxes in Fig. 5b. Fig. 6 shows the temporal development of ozone in the tropical upper troposphere, including the ozone partitioning resulting from the

various NO_x emissions derived by the NO_x -ozone diagnostic (Section 3). Clearly, lightning NO_x emissions dominate the ozone concentration in that region. Stratospheric ozone (red curve) is the second most important contributor, followed (only in the 90s) by industrial emissions. The inter-annual variability is induced by lightning occurrence and stratospheric dynamics. Other processes leading to a year to year variability are underestimated, since most of the surface NO_x emissions included in the model do not have an interannual variability, e.g. for anthropogenic emissions from industry only a stepwise linear increase in the global emission rate is assumed. The lower panel of Fig. 6 (bottom) shows the de-seasonalized ozone changes from lightning NO_x emissions and stratospheric influx. Additionally the ozone influx (see also Fig. 4) and the El Niño index (temperature deviation in the mid-tropical Pacific; values greater than 0.4 K and less than -0.4 K represent El Niño and La Niña situations, respectively, e.g. Trenberth, 1997) are shown. In the upper troposphere, ozone labelled as of stratospheric origin follows the ozone influx. This implies that the variability of ozone in the tropical upper troposphere can directly be attributed to the variability of the Northern

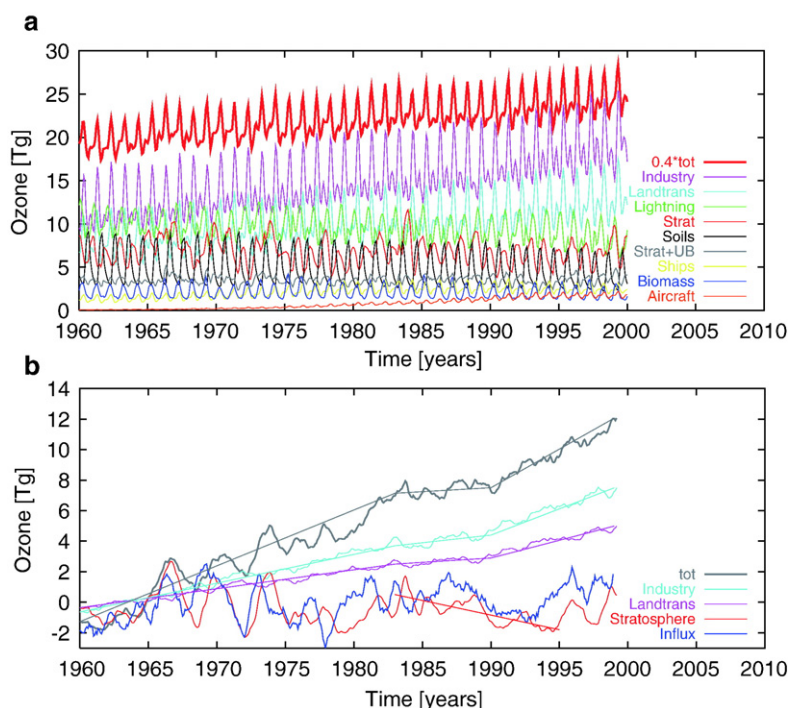


Fig. 7. Lower troposphere Northern Hemisphere (30° N–90° N; 1000 to 500 hPa) ozone budgets [Tg]. Top: De-composition into various ozone sources (see Fig. 5). Bottom: Major contributions to ozone trends. De-seasonalized anomalies [Tg] for stratospheric ozone (red), industry (blue), surface traffic (magenta) and total ozone (grey). Overlaid in blue are the Northern Hemisphere ozone influx anomalies [Tg/month]. Piecewise trend lines are added. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

Hemisphere mid-stratosphere dynamics, e.g. individual years with large influxes during the 60s and 70s (A: ~1966; B: ~1969/70; C: ~1973; Fig. 6b). This correlates well with high positive anomalies of Northern Hemisphere extra-tropical ozone (Fig. 3). This is also true for the solar cycle, with high solar activity around 1970, 1980 and 1999. The influence of stratospheric dynamics on the inter-annual variability of ozone is in the order of $\pm 5\%$, whereas the influence of the El Niño phenomenon on the inter-annual variability of ozone is in the order of $\pm 3\%$.

In the Northern Hemisphere lower troposphere (Fig. 7a), the ozone concentration is dominated by emissions from industry (~15 Tg), surface traffic (~12 Tg), lightning (~10 Tg) and stratospheric intrusion (~7 Tg), whereas interannual variability (Fig. 7b) is dominated mainly by the stratospheric intrusions. This partly may be due to the lack of interannual variability in the emission data. The ozone increase of around 25% in 1999 with respect to the 60s results mainly from the increase in emissions from industry (20%) and surface traffic (10%). The increase shows a stepwise behaviour, with almost constant annual mean values during the 80s. This has two reasons: First, the anthropogenic NO_x emissions included in the model are assumed to have smaller, but still positive, increase rates during that period (Fig. 1b), which is clearly reflected by the ozone changes caused by industrial NO_x emissions (Fig. 7a,b). Second, the ozone contribution from the stratosphere is decreasing by approximately 5% during that time which is caused by stratospheric ozone depletion. To some extent this offsets the increase in ozone caused by the increase in emissions during that period and therefore the increase is slowed down.

6. Discussion

In this paper mainly two aspects were investigated: a) what drives the ozone variability in the tropical upper troposphere? And b) what influences Northern Hemisphere lower troposphere ozone trends? The influence of stratospheric ozone on the troposphere was identified as one important factor for both questions. The impact of changes in stratospheric ozone on tropospheric ozone has been identified from observational data (e.g. Schnell et al., 2001). Taalas et al. (1997) estimated a trend of around -10% for the upper troposphere and around -2% for the lower troposphere for high latitudes of both hemispheres from 1988 to 1994, which is comparable to our findings. They suggested an increased penetration of UV fluxes into the troposphere leading to an enhanced

chemical activity. This increased UV fluxes were measured at numerous stations (WMO, 2003). Modelling studies suggest that in remote areas with low NO_x values an increase in UV-fluxes decrease surface ozone whereas in polluted regions enhanced ozone production dominates (Isaksen et al., 2005, and references therein). This simulation shows a pronounced ozone deficit on the Southern Hemisphere in 1983 and 1988 (Fig. 3), and an ozone enhancement in 1979 and 1989 in the order of 5% in both cases. Concurrently, tropospheric ozone production and destruction are both increasing (decreasing), during episodes of low (enhanced) stratospheric ozone. This leads to a decrease (increase) of surface ozone of 5% (not shown), which is in agreement to e.g. Isaksen et al. (2005). This adds to the contribution originating from strat–trop exchange.

In the tropics an analysis of tropospheric ozone columns, derived from TOMS measurements indicated an anti-correlation with the 11-year solar cycle (Chandra et al., 1999) in the area of the tropical Pacific. This simulation shows for the same region peak values of ozone columns in 1965, 1977, 1987, and 1997 (not shown), which coincides with low solar activity, however delayed by 1 to 2 years. The amplitude is in the order of 0.5 DU, which is roughly 5 times smaller than the values estimated by Chandra et al. (1999). Since the correlation is out of phase in the observational and model data, it is suggested that it is driven by changes in UV fluxes which impact ozone chemistry in the marine areas, as described above. On the other hand, the variability of upper troposphere ozone induced by a variability of ozone influxes is in phase.

The determination of the origin of tropospheric ozone with respect to various NO_x sources has previously been performed by others (e.g. Lelieveld and Dentener, 2000; Lamarque et al., 2005), since they took into account all NO_x pathways, their methodology is computationally much more expensive and could only be included for selected years. Lelieveld and Dentener (2000) presented a contribution of lightning to ozone of around 50% in the upper tropical troposphere and less than 10% in the northern extra-tropical troposphere for 1993. Although E39/C gives largest contribution to ozone also from lightning (Fig. 5b) the values are smaller, since NO_y and ozone seems to be more effectively transported to higher latitudes through the lowermost stratosphere and upper troposphere (Grewe et al., 2002b). On the other hand, their results indicate a stronger impact of stratospheric ozone especially on the Southern Hemisphere of around 40%, whereas E39/C shows a contribution of 10% to 20%. The latter is more in agreement to Lamarque et al. (2005). Other studies

Table 2

Comparison of the sensitivities in methane and ozone lifetime, ozone loss to changes in the ozone burden and the sensitivity of ozone burden changes to NO_x emissions

Changes per O ₃ burden change	CH ₄ lifetime	O ₃ lifetime	O ₃ loss	NO _x emission
	a/TgO ₃	d/TgO ₃	TgO ₃ /a/ TgO ₃	TgO ₃ / (TgN/a)
Stevenson et al. (2006)	0.000±0.006	−0.021±0.004	18.17±2.3	1.96±0.37
This work	−0.007±0.001	−0.032±0.007	16.40±1.2	3.15±0.26

show a contribution from stratospheric ozone to lower tropospheric ozone of 10 to 20 ppbv (25–35%) on the Northern Hemisphere and less than 5 to 10 ppbv (~20%) on the Southern Hemisphere (Collins et al., 2003; Kentarchos and Roelofs, 2003), respectively. Obviously, a conclusive picture cannot be drawn yet on the absolute and relative impact of various NO_x sources on the NO_y and ozone distribution. However, some general statements can be made: lightning dominates the NO_y and ozone budget in the tropical regions (see also Levy et al., 1999); stratospheric ozone the upper troposphere and anthropogenic NO_x emissions are dominating the production of ozone in the lower troposphere of the northern extra-tropics.

A direct comparison of calculated ozone changes with previous simulations is difficult since time horizons differ. Most model applications investigated pre-industrial and present simulations rather than the transient behaviour during the last decades (e.g. Lelieveld and Dentener, 2000; Hauglustaine and Brasseur, 2001). Others calculated the development from pre-industrial

times in steps of 10 years (Lamarque et al., 2005). Stevenson et al. (2006) performed a multi-model analysis for the years 2000 and 2030, which includes a number of sensitivities. These are more suitable to be compared to the findings presented here. Changes in ozone chemistry largely depend on the changes in emissions of its precursors. The present simulation (Table 1) includes an increase in NO_x emissions, a slight decrease in CO emissions and an increase in CH₄ concentrations. The most similar experiments in the work of Stevenson et al. are two timeslice experiments (S1 and S4), in which NO_x emissions increase by 27 TgN (here: 17 TgN); CO emissions increase by roughly 60% (here: −5%) and CH₄ surface concentrations increases by 403 ppbv (here 576 ppbv). Though, it has to be noted that CO and NMHC emission changes differ significantly, which most likely leads to a reduction in the OH concentration and a potentially larger methane lifetime change in S4 versus S1 than in this simulation. Table 2 shows that the sensitivity of changes in methane lifetime, ozone lifetime and ozone loss are comparable to the findings of Stevenson et al. The increase of the ozone burden in relation to NO_x emissions is somewhat larger in E39/C. However, the overall picture is consistent taking into account the different experimental set-up. Fig. 8 shows the results in more detail. Clearly, the correlation is weakest for ozone lifetime.

The most prominent variability pattern in the tropical troposphere on annual timescales is the El Niño phenomenon. Ziemke and Chandra (1999) presented its impact on tropospheric ozone derived from TOMS measurements. A clear signal was derived by applying a linear regression model. In order to directly compare their results, Fig. 9 shows monthly

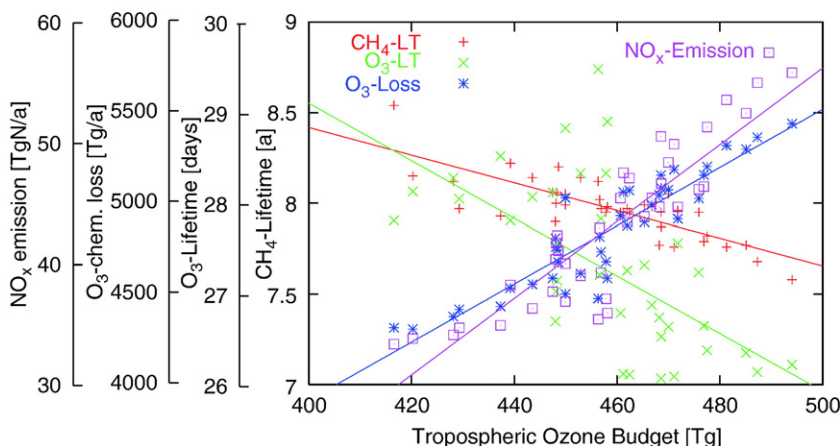


Fig. 8. Correlations of annual mean NO_x emissions [TgN/year], chemical ozone loss [Tg/year], ozone lifetime [days], and methane lifetime [years] to the tropospheric ozone budget [Tg].

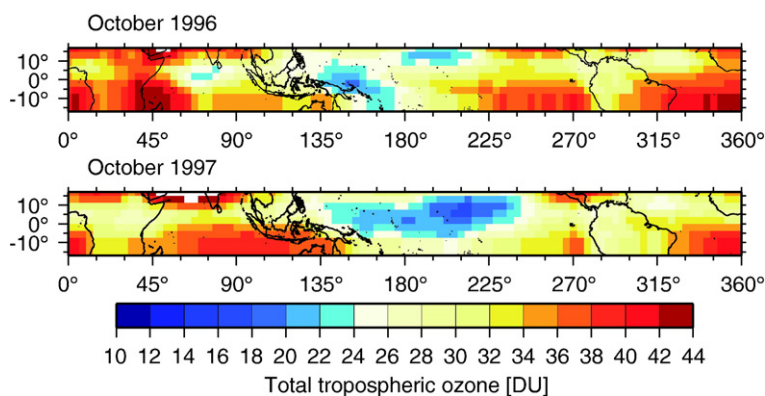


Fig. 9. Simulated tropospheric ozone columns for October 1996 (top) and 1997 (bottom) [DU], representing a non-El Niño year and an El Niño year.

means of simulated tropospheric ozone columns for October 1996 (normal) and 1997 (El Niño), which can be compared directly to their Plate 1. They found an eastward shift of minimum tropospheric total ozone values of 20 to 22 DU in the Pacific; a maximum westwards of Indonesia, which is well simulated by the model, i.e. the model is able to correctly simulate the principal impact of circulation changes on tropospheric ozone. Similar results were presented by Steinbrecht et al. (2006), who showed that the model is able to reproduce ENSO induce total ozone changes. Doherty et al. (2006) showed that tropical lightning NO_x emissions are correlated to the ENSO index, which agree with the findings presented here, though, they applied a lightning parameterisation, which has a very low sensitivity on marine lightning.

7. Summary

The atmospheric concentration of ozone shows a large variability in many parts of the atmosphere. To better understand the driving factors for this variability and to be able to attribute changes to natural climate variability and to anthropogenic changes a multi-decadal simulation (1960 to 1999) has been performed, employing realistic natural forcings, like El Niño, QBO, volcanoes, solar cycle. Additionally, diagnostic tools have been applied to attribute ozone changes and variations to specific NO_x and ozone sources and to detect the regions from where this ozone originates.

It has been shown that the stratospheric dynamics and the main stratospheric ozone variability pattern are well reproduced (Dameris et al., 2005, 2006; Steinbrecht et al., 2006). A total trend of approximately -20 DU is simulated, which mainly results from CFC emissions. A part (15%) of this decrease can be

attributed to a moistening of the stratosphere caused by tropospheric warming (Stenje and Grewe, 2005).

The influx of ozone from the stratosphere into the troposphere depends on the stratospheric circulation and the chemical stratospheric ozone production. Applying ozone origin diagnostics leads to the result that the variability of the ozone influx into the troposphere on the Northern Hemisphere is dominated by planetary wave forcing and on the Southern Hemisphere by variations of the ozone production caused by the solar cycle. This directly produces inter-annual variability in tropospheric ozone of around $\pm 5\%$, which is most pronounced in the tropics. Another climate variability pattern is forced by the El Niño phenomenon, which increases lightning occurrence and lightning NO_x emissions and leads to an inter-annual ozone variability of around $\pm 3\%$ in the tropical upper troposphere.

The analysis of the ozone influx is based on the Wei formula, which has been under debate, since the net flux is a residuum and depends additionally on the coordinate system (Grewe and Dameris, 1996; Wirth and Egger, 1999; Stohl et al., 2003). However, the results show that the variability in the ozone influx is well correlated with the variability in tropospheric ozone originating from the stratosphere, which gives more confidence in the methodology.

In the Northern Hemisphere lower troposphere, i.e. the region which is related to air quality aspects, ozone is mainly produced by industry and surface traffic NO_x emissions. Since the prescribed anthropogenic emissions include an increase during the simulation period, also the ozone produced by those emissions shows a similar behaviour, i.e. a total increase of 25% (relative to the total ozone) with 20% caused by industry NO_x emissions and 10% by surface NO_x traffic emissions. During the 80s and early 90s the increase in ozone is

decelerated, because the contribution from the stratospheric influx is reduced by 5% (with respect to total ozone) due to stratospheric ozone depletion.

Since reliable global emission data were not available at the time when the simulation was started, the results are clearly limited by the rather coarse assumptions concerning the anthropogenic emissions. The emission data reflect a compromise between global emission increase in the 90s and European NO_x emission reduction, i.e. a decelerated global increase. Moreover, non-methane hydrocarbon emissions are not included in the model simulation and even more important the tropospheric chemistry consists of CH₄–OH–NO_x–O₃ background chemistry, only. Previous studies clearly pointed out that this is a limitation to the applicability of the model (Granier and Brasseur, 2003; Matthes et al., 2005). It implies that ozone lifetimes are overestimated in the lowermost atmosphere, where the NMHC chemistry is most important (Roelofs and Lelieveld, 2000). Further, the missing NMHC chemistry leads to an ozone change pattern, which is more confined to the source regions in the present simulation. Moreover the road traffic NMHC emissions would even enhance the long-range transport of nitrogen compounds via formation of additional PAN (Matthes et al., 2005). However, the less confined change pattern expected due to PAN formation and the shorter ozone lifetime caused by an increase in HO₂ due to NMHC chemistry are counteracting processes. NMHC chemistry is not included in the present simulation and both processes somehow compensate, but for the wrong reason. The background chemistry included in this simulation describes well enough the chemistry at least in the mid- and upper troposphere. Background chemistry is sufficient to investigate how variability in stratospheric ozone, caused by dynamics or the 11-year solar cycle, and variability in tropospheric dynamics (El Niño) impact tropospheric ozone and its trend. For a reliable estimate of road traffic and industry emissions a more sophisticated chemical scheme and emission data (e.g. recently released data from the RETRO EU project) have to be employed.

However, the results clearly indicate that the near surface ozone burden, which is an air quality aspect, is to some extent affected by stratospheric processes and that ozone trends can be weakened and strengthened by stratospheric processes and climate–chemistry interactions (e.g. El Niño).

The simulation does not include small scale processes, normally resolved by air quality/regional models. A number of feedbacks are possible, such as plume conversion processes in the vicinity of cities, etc. It will be a challenge to include these effects in future climate–chemistry simulations.

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